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Oct 1914 June 1915

R. A. FALCONER, D.LITT., LL.D., HONORARY PRESIDENT.  
DR. W. B. HENDRY, PRESIDENT.  
V. F. STOCK, VICE-PRESIDENT.  
JAS. W. BARTON, M.D., PHYSICAL DIRECTOR.  
T. A. REED, SECRETARY-TREASURER

University of Toronto  
Athletic Association

DIRECTORS:

PROF. C. H. C. WRIGHT A. E. CUZNER  
PROF. G. I. H. LLOYD C. E. GAGE  
J. C. McCLELLAND S. McKEOUGH

Sir Edmund Walker,

UNIVERSITY GYMNASIUM,

Oct 30/14

Dear Sir Edmund: I am astounded to see the University grounds not being set out in trees, shrubs, etc by the Forestry and Botanical Department of the University but instead by a man evidently skilled in arrangement of walks paths and the proper placement of trees. But the kind of tree or shrub should be the selection of scientific men whose specialty it is, such as Prof Thompson, Mr Simpson & the staff at the Forestry building. In my work in the U.S. I travel all over as you can see by the enclosed Battle Creek folder, and I have visited nearly every campus and park on the other side and I must say that the signs of the new arrangement is dreadful. Think of planting those big weeds — Carolina reapers on the Museum. When

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UNIVERSITY GYMNASIUM.

I am asked how our campus is arranged & by whom I am ashamed to tell. I have a little arboratum of my own & have a very rare selection of trees from all over northern Asia Europe & this country and in ten years time it will be of vast more interest to tree lovers than the shabby arrangement that present indications point to the University grounds.

I think myself that this matter has not been brought properly to your attention or you can see that our own men are far ahead in the understanding of what kind of soil sun, shade etc. etc. that a tree loves than does a man whose specialty is planning curves.

I have no axe to grind but for some time this matter has worried me for our University grounds are already foul and shows signs of becoming not much better. Very sincerely  
 G. W. Corsan



ackd 4.6.15

Correspondence Table

June 2/15

Young Men's Christian Association

President Falconer Danville, Illinois

University of Toronto

My Dear Mr President: Last winter I called on the army heads, I wrote to the Minister of Militia and I telephoned frequently to them that my services were at their disposal free for the winter.

I always received replies such as "yes, yes" but nothing was done, absolutely nothing.

I don't know what to make of it for in this country I am considered a wonder. Everyone in Kansas City knew of my every move as all the newspapers sent reporters to see me every day for the entire two weeks of my stay.

My method of teaching people how to become drown-proof by breathing under the water is considered the most valuable thing in connection with the whole art of swimming according to the physical heads of Princeton, University of Pennsylvania

## Correspondence Table

Young Men's Christian Association

Danville, Illinois

the University of Chicago, Harvard, the head of the American Health League and the head of the Playgrounds Association not to mention the Boy Scouts and the International Committee. And yet the militia of my country take no notice of my offer.

To say that I am disgusted is not all I think for I suspect the real cause is incompetency on the part of the army heads. Thore's stupidity lies at the base of the matter. Why even in this corrupt whiskey soaked city I have awakened tremendous interest and when my methods of teaching swimming can arouse such enthusiasm in this time of trouble I should receive better consideration from the Canadian Military authorities especially so when transports carrying our own citizens are liable to be torpedoed by the



Correspondence Table  
Young Men's Christian Association  
Danville, Illinois

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submarines at any time on their trip to Europe.

I write this in expectation that you may come personally in contact with these men and may have the opportunity to ask them, have they ever examined into my methods.

If there is anything in this U.S. that is the very best in the world I say that it is the American high school principal. He or she represent to my mind the greatest moral force for real good on this continent.

They are always glad to have me talk for one hour to their pupils in the assembly room. My lecture is listened to most attentively by generally 1,500 or 1,600 pupils.

I never had an invitation to talk to a high school audience in Toronto, but here I am paid to!

I write simply to say that the Ontario Teachers Training School will

Correspondence Table  
Young Men's Christian Association  
Danville, Illinois

again have my services (for half price) during three weeks of July. Thus being in Toronto at that time would be a good opportunity to train up a staff of officers as I work during the afternoons and will have the mornings unengaged.

I will write no more letters to The Hon Sam nor any one else connected with the militia.

As I am on the move all the time, and as your time is very valuable I do not expect an answer but expect to be in Toronto on July 5<sup>th</sup> so that should you be inclined towards the object of this letter and be able to make an impression I will be glad to help my country. I do so now by sending 90 of good American gold to Canada every week but human lives are ~~worth~~ more than gold.

Very sincerely yours,

G. H. Corsan





## Program of Exhibition and Demonstration

G. H. CORSAN

Author of "At Home in the Water," Holder of "The Award of Merit"

1. Imitation of the porpoise and dolphin.
2. Imitation of a drowning man.
3. Australian Crawl, sprinters' style and long distance style.
4. Trudgeon—crawl stroke.
5. Trudgeon stroke.
6. Revolving or spiral stroke.
7. English overarm on right and left sides, the one-two-three stroke.
8. Swimming with left leg and left arm only, the half paralyzed stroke.
9. Single overarm stroke on back.
10. Alternate overarm on back with "scissors," "frog," and "flutter" kick.
11. Double overarm on back, two styles.
12. Double alternating on back.
13. Steamboat. Swimming backward. Marching. Bicycle. Spinning.
14. Sculling, head first on breast, head first on back, feet first on back.
15. Racer's turn; five styles. Loop the loop. Somersaulting. Rolling log. Circle in.
16. The wheel, demonstrating rapid breathing. Submarine Cater-corner.
17. The crab. Feathering. Waltzing. Mudhole crawl. Pacing.
18. Side underarm, on either side. Broad stroke on back. Sailor fashion.
19. Swimming with hands and feet tied. Figure eight. The bluegill.
20. Underwater swim, new method. Propeller and torpedo.
21. Imitation of the muskrat and otter.
22. Division of strokes into their separate details.
23. Life saving: Release, rescue, resuscitation (Schäfer method).
24. Fancy Diving. Swimming fully dressed and undressing on the surface.
25. Explanation of all strokes. Questions answered.
26. Explanation of the "Corsan" system of teaching in mass.

## LEARN TO SWIM

### AND ENJOY BATHING

G. H. CORSAN, Swimming Instructor

University of Toronto.  
International Committee Y. M. C. A., New York City.  
Normal School of Physical Education, Battle Creek, Mich.  
The Battle Creek Sanitarium.  
Eastern Associations School, Silver Bay, Lake George.  
The Y. W. C. A. National Board, New York City.  
The Life Guards, Chicago Play Grounds.  
The Institute and Training School, Chicago and Lake Geneva.  
The Life Guards, Park and Recreation Commission, St. Louis, Mo.  
Ontario Government Teachers' Training School.

Past Swimming Instructor

Brooklyn S. S. Athletic League.  
Brookline Municipal Baths.  
26th Infantry, Detroit, Mich.  
Hotel Chamberlin, Old Point Comfort, Va.  
The Coliseum, Louisville, Ky.  
City of Poughkeepsie, Parks and Schools.  
City of Cincinnati Schools.

## SANITARIUM SWIMMING POOLS

Price \$1.00 a lesson or six lessons for \$5.00

Secure Tickets from

LORNE A. SUMMERS, Ass't Physical Director

*Battle Creek - September*

## SWIM TO HEALTH

There is a tremendous advantage in exercise in the horizontal position in cases of pelvic troubles, but why run on all fours when swimming is better and more dignified? Relaxation is one of the secrets of the art of swimming, a fact which explains the smooth, round muscles of swimmers, and their freedom from old-age wrinkles. A weak or tired heart secures a much-needed rest and is thereby strengthened after an easy swim.

The snake-like contortions of the trunk while performing stunts in the water enable the liver and bowels to perform their normal functions.

The action of the sun and air on the skin while swimming is a derivative treatment unequalled by any artificial treatment. Swimming makes women robust. Swimming is exhilarating.

The Australian crawl strengthens the shoulders and lungs as no other exercise can, developing beautiful, wedge-shaped shoulders on the growing boy. Swimming rounds off the attenuated and reduces the corpulent.

Swimming makes us forget our troubles. It offsets the evil effects of corset wearing and of the cramped position of the sedentary worker. Swimming ends our worries about drowning.

Swimming encourages deep breathing, a swimmer using up an enormous amount of air. For this reason swimming is of value for a singer or public speaker.

Swimming induces sleep in the nervous, and thus it wards off insanity.

## OPPORTUNITY

### FOR LEARNING CORRECT STYLE

The Battle Creek Sanitarium has four swimming pools, two outdoor and two indoor. In September, when the lakes and rivers become too cool for long swimming, the outdoor pools at the Sanitarium are heated so comfortably that even delicate persons can swim for hours without discomfort.

No person can teach himself to swim properly, because he cannot see his own movements while in the water, as can the expert teacher, who in a short time can eliminate faults by directing the motions. Not everyone can become a speed swimmer, but everyone by expert coaching can become a safe, non-drownable swimmer. Mr. Corsan's specialty is teaching the timid, the clumsy, the structurally awkward, and those whom everyone else has failed to teach. On four occasions he has taught 1,500 boys inside of a week.

While the lessons are not private, yet every pupil will get all the individual attention he requires, and at easy terms.

Mr. Corsan's pupils always work out the details of the art of swimming with the aid of water wings, to enable the pupil to center the mind on one detail at a time until perfection of style is attained.

June 4th, 1915

Mr. C. M. Corran,

Y. M. C. A.

Danville, Ill.

Dear Mr. Corran:

In the absence of President Falconer from the city I try to acknowledge the receipt of your letter and am glad to know that your success is following you. The President will receive your letter on Monday when he returns to the office.

Yours very truly,

President's Secretary.



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June 14th, 1915

Mr. G. H. Corson,

V.F.C.A.,

Danville, Ill.

Dear Mr. Corson:

I have received your letter of the 1st of June. Probably the Militia authorities have had so much to do in getting the new contingents ready that they have been unable to give the consideration to all the offers of service that have been made to them. If, however, I happen to meet any of them in the near future and restate your offer with regard to the parental instruction I will be glad to speak to them.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.